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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
1920 L Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036
(202) 835-9555

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, September 15, 1983 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended September 10 totaled an estimated 15.1 billion ton-miles, 13.0 percent above the corresponding period a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today. Both weeks included the Labor Day holiday.

Cumulative volume for the first 36 weeks of 1983 was an estimated 562.1 billion ton-miles, 0.3 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended September 10 totaled 337,354 cars, 8.2 percent over 1982, but 14.1 percent lower than the preceding non-holiday week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 0.4 percent in the East, 4.7 percent in the South and 15.2 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1982, 15 of the 21 commodity groups were up, including nonmetallic minerals, up 51.7 percent; grain, up 37.0 percent; and motor vehicles and equipment, up 18.8 percent. All of the 21 groups were down from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended September 3 totaled 49,367 cars, up 19.3 percent from the corresponding week of 1982, and 87,019 trailers and/or containers, 18.7 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 35 weeks of the year was 1,534,403 cars, 20.4 percent higher than last year, and 2,645,694 trailers and/or containers, up 17.3 percent.

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Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 9/10/83:

	Loadings in Week ended September 10, 1983		Change from Corresponding Week 1982			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	27,367	I	7,392	37.0	D	4,440	14.0
Other farm products	2,667	I	62	2.4	D	185	6.5
Metallic ores	13,365	I	1,755	15.1	D	1,159	8.0
Coal	99,554	D	1,905	1.9	D	10,114	9.2
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	9,351	D	181	1.9	D	1,417	13.2
Nonmetallic minerals	11,103	I	3,786	51.7	D	3,340	23.1
Grain mill products	10,637	I	251	2.4	D	1,361	11.3
Food and kindred products	10,470	D	1,459	12.2	D	1,796	14.6
Primary forest products	11,745	D	742	5.9	D	2,437	17.2
Lumber and wood products except furniture	5,550	I	879	18.8	D	1,971	26.2
Pulp, paper and allied products	13,664	D	322	2.3	D	2,084	13.2
Chemicals and allied products	21,005	I	1,742	9.0	D	4,173	16.6
Petroleum products	4,323	I	178	4.3	D	480	10.0
Stone, clay and glass products	10,134	I	510	5.3	D	1,540	13.2
Coke	5,537	I	1,479	36.4	D	129	2.3
Metals and products	6,846	I	624	10.0	D	2,154	23.9
Motor vehicles and equipment	14,018	I	2,223	18.8	D	3,330	19.2
Waste and scrap materials	6,719	I	501	8.1	D	1,491	18.2
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	8,351	I	1,569	23.1	D	1,776	17.5
All other carloads	44,741	I	7,838	21.2	D	9,852	18.0
LCL traffic	207	D	675	76.5	D	118	36.3
Total Cars Loaded	337,354	I	25,505	8.2	D	55,347	14.1
Corresponding week of 1982	311,849						

	1983	1982	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (36 weeks)	12,786,486	13,212,896	D 3.2
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
35 weeks ended September 3	546.9	550.3	D 0.6
Week ended September 10	15.1	13.4	I 13.0
36 weeks cumulative	562.1	563.7	D 0.3

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, September 22, 1983 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended September 17 totaled an estimated 17.8 billion ton-miles, 15.7 percent above the corresponding period a year ago and the highest individual week since the week ended November 21, 1981, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 37 weeks of 1983 was an estimated 579.8 billion ton-miles, 0.1 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended September 17 totaled 400,726 cars, 11.3 percent over 1982, and 18.8 percent higher than the preceding holiday week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 11.4 percent in the East, 2.8 percent in the South and 16.6 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1982, 17 of the 21 commodity groups were up, led by nonmetallic minerals, up 37.4 percent; metallic ores, 34.2 percent; and grain, 33.3 percent. All of the 21 groups were up from the preceding holiday week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended September 10 totaled 41,320 cars, up 25.5 percent from the corresponding week of 1982, and 71,555 trailers and/or containers, 23.3 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 36 weeks of the year was 1,575,723 cars, 20.6 percent higher than last year, and 2,717,249 trailers and/or containers, up 17.5 percent.

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Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 9/17/83:

	Loadings in Week ended September 17, 1983		Change from Corresponding Week 1982			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	29,898	I	7,476	33.3	I	2,536	9.3
Other farm products	3,728	I	889	31.3	I	1,060	39.7
Metallic ores	16,247	I	4,141	34.2	I	2,882	21.6
Coal	116,799	I	3,896	3.5	I	17,245	17.3
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	11,051	I	721	7.0	I	1,701	18.2
Nonmetallic minerals	13,378	I	3,644	37.4	I	2,277	20.5
Grain mill products	12,968	I	744	6.1	I	2,342	22.0
Food and kindred products	12,640	D	1,330	9.5	I	2,249	21.6
Primary forest products	14,628	D	274	1.8	I	2,879	24.5
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,199	I	1,071	17.5	I	1,661	30.0
Pulp, paper and allied products	15,205	D	580	3.7	I	1,531	11.2
Chemicals and allied products	24,277	I	2,419	11.1	I	3,266	15.5
Petroleum products	5,231	I	485	10.2	I	908	21.5
Stone, clay and glass products	11,799	I	713	6.4	I	1,685	16.7
Coke	5,563	I	1,319	31.1	I	26	0.5
Metals and products	8,255	I	788	10.6	I	1,411	20.6
Motor vehicles and equipment	18,167	I	3,385	22.9	I	4,150	29.6
Waste and scrap materials	9,049	I	1,285	16.6	I	2,331	34.7
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	9,974	I	1,721	20.9	I	1,642	19.7
All other carloads	54,398	I	9,086	20.1	I	9,659	21.6
LCL traffic	272	D	880	76.4	I	65	31.4
Total Cars Loaded	400,726	I	40,719	11.3	I	63,506	18.8
Corresponding week of 1982	360,007						

	1983	1982	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (37 weeks)	13,187,078	13,572,903	D 2.8
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
36 weeks ended September 10	562.1	563.7	D 0.3
Week ended September 17	17.8	15.3	I 15.7
37 weeks cumulative	579.8	579.0	I 0.1

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, September 29, 1983 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended September 24 totaled an estimated 17.4 billion ton-miles, 49.1 percent above the corresponding period a year ago. Traffic for the 1982 week was severely depressed due to a four-day strike by the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers which affected most of the nation's railroads.

Cumulative volume for the first 38 weeks of 1983 was an estimated 597.3 billion ton-miles, 1.1 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended September 24 totaled 393,907 cars, 41.0 percent over 1982, but 1.7 percent lower than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 27.2 percent in the East, 31.4 percent in the South and 58.6 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1982, 20 of the 21 commodity groups were up. Eleven of the 21 groups were up from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended September 17 totaled 49,888 cars, up 23.8 percent from the corresponding week of 1982, and 87,661 trailers and/or containers, 23.9 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 37 weeks of the year was 1,625,408 cars, 20.7 percent higher than last year, and 2,804,484 trailers and/or containers, up 17.7 percent.

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